

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION



REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

VIA ECFS

June 27, 2016

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**
WC Docket No. 14-58 - ETC Annual Reports and Certifications

Request that Information Submitted to the Commission be Withheld from Public Inspection Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §0.459 and 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(4): Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report and Service Outage Reporting included in FCC Form 481

Confidential Information - Subject to Protective Order Before the Federal Communications Commission

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In accordance with the annual reporting requirements of 47 C.F.R. §§54.313 and 54.422, Wheat State Telephone, Inc. (the Company), Study Area Code 411847 is submitting a completed FCC Form 481 to the Commission via its Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) in WC Docket No. 14-58. *The version of the Company's FCC Form 481 submitted via ECFS is a redacted version of the filing that contains no confidential information.*

The Company, by its authorized representative, hereby requests confidential treatment of three attachments to its FCC Form 481: (1) the five-year service quality improvement plan progress report, (2) the financial annual report, and (3) service outage reporting, all of which were redacted in the ECFS submission. The request for confidential treatment of the five-year plan progress report and the service outage reporting is being made pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules and Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The request for confidential treatment of the financial annual



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report is being made pursuant to the FCC's March 22, 2016 *Protective Order* in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58. These attachments contain competitively sensitive data that Wheat State Telephone, Inc. maintains as confidential and does not normally make available to the public. Release of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Company.

Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report and Service Outage Reporting

Pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules and Exemption 4 of FOIA, Wheat State Telephone, Inc. requests that the text and data extracted from its five-year service quality improvement plan progress report and the service outage reporting be withheld from public inspection because it contains competitively sensitive commercial and financial information that the Company maintains as confidential. Public availability of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Company.

In accordance with Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules, the following information is provided in support of this request:

(1) Identification of the specific information for which confidential treatment is sought:

Attachment to Line 112 of FCC Form 481 – Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report. Specifically, confidential treatment is sought for all information in the five-year plan progress report related to the Company's access line counts, existing broadband capabilities, and current and planned financial investments in its network that will improve service quality, service coverage, and/or service capacity for its customers.

Attachment to Line 200 of FCC Form 481 – Service Outage Reporting. Confidential treatment is sought for all information in the service outage report specifically related to the Company's access line counts.

(2) Identification of the Commission proceeding in which the information was submitted or a description of the circumstances giving rise to the submission:

The information was submitted in WC Docket No. 14-58 as an attachment to FCC Form 481- the Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form. Section 100 of FCC Form 481 requires incumbent local exchange carriers receiving high cost support to attach a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a)(1). Section 200 requires eligible telecommunications carriers to report outage information of at least 30 minutes in duration and impacts at least



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ten percent of the end users served in the service area or 911 special facility pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a)(2).

- (3) Explanation of the degree to which the information is commercial or financial, or contains a trade secret or is privileged:

The five-year service quality improvement plan progress report contains granular information on the Company's access line counts and/or existing broadband capabilities as well as recent and planned capital investments in its network to improve service quality, service coverage, and/or service capacity. It also contains a map of the Company's service area detailing progress toward meeting broadband deployment targets at the wire center level. The service outage information contains access line information which could cause harm to the competitive position of the Company. The required information in both instances contains closely guarded, privileged information that the Company does not make publicly available.

- (4) Explanation of the degree to which the information concerns a service that is subject to competition:

Broadband service and voice service are both subject to increasing competition in the areas served by rural, rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carriers (RLECs). Virtually all RLECs face competition from one or more wireless providers that have voice and data plans. Most RLECs also face competition from at least one other wireline voice and broadband provider such as a larger cable company, who will typically seek to "cherry pick" the lower cost portions of the study area. In addition, all RLECs face competition throughout their territories from satellite providers.

- (5) Explanation of how disclosure of the information could result in substantial competitive harm:

Disclosure of the information contained in the five-year plan progress report and the outage reporting would provide competitors with detailed, granular information regarding the Company's access line count, its existing broadband capabilities, and its recent and planned network investments that improve service quality, coverage, and/or capacity for subscribers. This would give competitors invaluable confidential information with which to develop their own strategies for investing in the service area, thereby bringing substantial competitive harm to the Company.



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- (6) Identification of any measures taken by the submitting party to prevent unauthorized disclosure:

The Company has continually treated the extracted information in its five-year plan progress report and the access line counts provided in the service outage reporting as confidential and carefully controls the information to protect it from competitors. Access to the information is limited to employees that require it and to non-employees with confidentiality obligations such as lenders, consultants, auditors, and attorneys. In addition, when such information is required to be submitted to a state regulatory authority it has been filed as confidential information, not available to the public.

- (7) Identification of whether the information is available to the public and the extent of any previous disclosure of the information to third parties:

The redacted information in the five-year plan progress report and service outage reporting is not available to the public, and third party access is limited as described in (6) above.

- (8) Justification of the period during which the submitting party asserts that material should not be available for public disclosure:

The Company requests that the extracted information be withheld from public inspection indefinitely. The information in the five-year plan progress report details the Company's most recent network upgrades in relation to its previously submitted service quality improvement plan. It may also contain upcoming planned network improvements during the period ending 2019. This information would provide a very useful baseline for competitors for several years beyond that period. The Company also requests that the service outage information be withheld from public inspection indefinitely because of the ongoing competitive harm it may cause.

- (9) Any other information that the party seeking confidential information treatment believes may be useful in assessing whether its request for confidentiality should be granted:

Exemption 4 of FOIA shields from public disclosure commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential. Based on the responses provided above, the information in question satisfies this test.



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Financial Annual Report

Section 3005 of FCC Form 481 requires a privately-held rate-of-return carrier receiving high cost support to attach a full and complete annual report of the company's financial condition and operations pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2). Wheat State Telephone, Inc. seeks confidential treatment of its financial annual report pursuant to the March 22, 2016 *Protective Order* in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58.¹ The *Protective Order* specifically covers information filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2).

Wheat State Telephone, Inc. is providing to the Office of the Secretary, under seal, this cover letter and the Form 481 filing which includes the confidential information that is being requested to be withheld from public inspection.

Each page of the five-year service quality improvement plan progress report confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE."

Each page of the Service Outage Reporting (Voice) confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE."

Each page of the financial annual report confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION."

The confidential information has also been submitted to the Universal Service Administrative Company through its E-File system as attachments to the FCC Form 481.

In the filing submitted via ECFS, all pages containing confidential information bear the legend "REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION."

This cover letter includes no confidential information and the text is the same in both the non-redacted and redacted versions except for the confidentiality markings.

¹ *Connect America Fund, ETC Annual Reports and Certifications*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58, Protective Order, DA 16-296 (rel. Mar. 22, 2016).



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Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Arturo G. Macias". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Arturo" and last name "Macias" clearly distinguishable.

Arturo G. Macias
General Manager for
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Kansas Corporation Commission

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |
| | Form Type | 54.313 and 54.422 |

**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

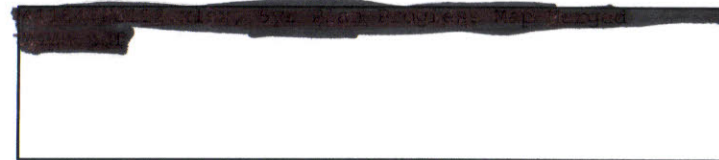
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
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| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <110> | Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC? | (yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC? | | |
| <111> | | (yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, please file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.



Name of Attached Document

Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

| | | |
|-------|--|-----|
| <113> | Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets | Yes |
| <114> | Report how much universal service (USF) support was received | Yes |
| <115> | How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality | Yes |
| <116> | How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage | Yes |
| <117> | How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve service capacity | Yes |
| <118> | Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year. | Yes |

| |
|-----|
| Yes |
| Yes |
| Yes |
| Yes |
| Yes |
| Yes |

FCC Form 481
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July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
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| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

<210> For the prior calendar year, were there any reportable voice service outages?

[illegible]

**(300) Unfulfilled Service Request
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| <010> Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice)

0

<310> Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

0

<330> Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

(400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|--|------------------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext. 109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |
| <400> | Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. | Offered only fixed voice |
| <410> | Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice | 0.0 |
| <420> | Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice | |
| <430> | Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. | Offered only fixed broadband |
| <440> | Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband | 0.0 |
| <450> | Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband | |

**(500) Compliance With Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |
| <500> | Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules | Yes |
| <510> | Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance | 411847KS510 (Voice).pdf, 411847KS510 (Broadband).pdf |

(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL. INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext. 109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | c1008@wheatstate.com |
| <600> | Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations | Yes |
| <610> | Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations | 411847KS610.docx (Voice), 411847KS610.docx (Broadband) |

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
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| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |
| <701> | Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date | 1/1/2016 |
| <702> | Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge | 17.0 |

[illegible]

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

[illegible]

| | |
|---|--|
| (800) Operating Companies Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013 |
|---|--|

| | | |
|-------|---|-----------------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL., INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |
| <810> | Reporting Carrier | Wheat State Telephone, Inc. |
| <811> | Holding Company | Golden Wheat, Inc. |
| <812> | Operating Company | Wheat State Telephone, Inc. |

[illegible]

**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| <010> Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

<900> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N)

No

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

| Select Yes or No or Not Applicable |
|--|
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**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance 411847KS1010.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification Yes - Pricing is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance 411847KS1030.pdf

Name of Attached Document

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers
Lifeline
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
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| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

411847KS1210.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP <http://newportal.wheatstate.com/>

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, ☒
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, ☒
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. ☒

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**Data Collection Form***Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2010> 2nd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(i) - Note that for the July 1 2016 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support
- <2011> 3rd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 1 2016 certification, this applies to Round 1 recipients of Incremental Support
- <2022> Recipient certifies, representing year two after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2023> The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2024A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2024B> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2025A> Round 1 or Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2025B> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 1 for year three and Round 2 for year two) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)

Data Collection Form

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017B> Attach information for Phase II - 54.313(e)(1) - list of geocoded locations already meeting the 54.309 public interest obligations at the end of calendar year 2015 and total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(2)(ii)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(2)(v)

<2020> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 40% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2017 - 54.313(e)(3)

<2021> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 60% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2018 - 54.313(e)(4)

<2026> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 80% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2019 - 54.313(e)(5)

<2027> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 100% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2020 - 54.313(e)(6)

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection FormFCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 411847
 <015> Study Area Name WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
 <020> Program Year 2017
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Carrie Loos
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 6207823341 ext.109
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> cloos@wheatstate.com

Complete the items below to note compliance with five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3009) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan
Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)

(3010A) Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)) Yes - Attach Certification

(3010B) Please Provide Attachment Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information 411847RS3010.docx

(3012A) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)) No - No New Community Anchors

(3012B) Please Provide Attachment Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)) ☒ Yes ☐ No

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report (Yes/No) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

(3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers) ☒

(3016) Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☒

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited? (Yes/No) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers ☐

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☐

(3021) Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit. ☐

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers ☐

(3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant ☐

(3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification. ☐

(3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☐

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

REDACTED

[The Financial Data Summary (FCC Form 481; lines 3027-3034) of **Wheat State Telephone, Inc.** filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2) is redacted in its entirety as Highly Confidential Information.]

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission's public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

4001. Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

4003a. RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

4003b. Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information _____

Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)

4004a. Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information _____

4004b. Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information _____

**Certification - Reporting Carrier
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

| Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients | |
|---|--|
| I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate. | |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| Signature of Authorized Officer: | CERTIFIED ONLINE Date 06/27/2016 |
| Printed name of Authorized Officer: | Arturo Macias |
| Title or position of Authorized Officer: | General Manager |
| Telephone number of Authorized Officer: | 6207823341 ext.103 |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: | 411847 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016 |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

Attachments

REDACTED

[The Progress Report of **Wheat State Telephone, Inc.** filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1) is redacted in its entirety as Highly Confidential Information.]

REDACTED

[The Service Outage Report of **Wheat State Telephone, Inc.** filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2) is redacted in its entirety as Highly Confidential Information.]

411847KS510

SAC: 411847

State: Kansas

Quality and consumer protection certification

Line: 510

Quality and consumer protection certification

Voice - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(5) and or 47 C.F.R. § 54.422(b)(3) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") is in compliance with appropriate FCC Service Quality Standards, Consumer Protection Rules, Kansas billing practice standards and quality of service standards.

Wheat State provides CPNI training to all of its new employees and in addition trains all of its existing employees on an annual basis. Wheat State also conducts subscriber outreach regarding CPNI by periodically placing CPNI explanation messages into subscriber's bills and also has signage in its business office regarding CPNI rules and regulations. In addition Wheat State trains staff on Red Flag issues on an annual basis. All company employees are required to sign and acknowledge that they have completed CPNI and Red Flag training and understand obligations to adherence of applicable rules.

Wheat State has submitted quarterly LEC Quality of Service metrics with the Kansas Corporation Commission ("KCC") and has not had failing benchmarks. Wheat State is able to accomplish meeting the metrics by ensuring employees are properly trained, equipment is kept operational and spare equipment is available when needed. Wheat State is properly staffed to exceed quality of service benchmarks. Lastly, Wheat State is in full compliance with KCC billing practices standards including itemizing service and service charges, and taxes. Wheat State also provides alternative billing and has a link on its website where subscribers can view and pay their bills. Wheat State has updated its billing system and trained its employees to insure that it is in compliance with standards for payment, deposits, and disconnection procedures.

411847KS510

SAC: 411847

State: Kansas

Quality and consumer protection certification

Line: 510

Quality and consumer protection certification

Broadband - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(5) and or 47 C.F.R. § 54.422(b)(3) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") is in compliance with appropriate FCC Service Quality Standards, Consumer Protection Rules, Kansas billing practice standards and quality of service standards.

Wheat State provides CPNI training to all of its new employees and in addition trains all of its existing employees on an annual basis. Wheat State also conducts subscriber outreach regarding CPNI by periodically placing CPNI explanation messages into subscriber's bills and also has signage in its business office regarding CPNI rules and regulations. In addition Wheat State trains staff on Red Flag issues on an annual basis. All company employees are required to sign and acknowledge that they have completed CPNI and Red Flag training and understand obligations to adherence of applicable rules.

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SAC: 411847
State: Kansas
Functionality in Emergency Situations
Line: 610

Functionality in Emergency Situations:

Voice - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(6) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.22(b)(4) as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") meets the requirements to remain functional in emergency situations and has the following capabilities: Wheat State's central office and remote offices are all equipped with batteries and natural gas generators that provide a minimum of 8 hours of uninterrupted power with an almost unlimited back up supply of fuel for generators to recharge batteries in cases of loss of power. In addition, Wheat State has recently upgraded its network and has deployed FTTH technology and has supplied FTTH homes with 8 hours of battery back up at the optical network terminal at the subscriber home.

Wheat State has deployed SONET and Ethernet network technologies in its network. In addition, Wheat State has properly prepared itself for any network outages by having redundant and diverse routing in place to manage any outages and has purchased spare cards for all of its core network equipment for fast replacement should there be a card failure. In instance of fiber cuts, Wheat State has its own fiber technicians and fiber splice equipment in house to assist in an expeditious repair of any fiber cuts. For added security Wheat State has connectivity with the AT&T Wichita tandem and also has connectivity to the Kansas Fiber Network. Both of these options provide Wheat State with diverse options to reroute traffic should an emergency situation arise.

Lastly, Wheat State has developed network preparedness plans in cases of emergency situations. Wheat State has sufficient capacity within its switching network to handle call spikes in emergency situations and its staff has been sufficiently trained of preparedness plans to minimize any and all outages during emergency situations.

SAC: 411847

State: Kansas

Functionality in Emergency Situations

Line: 610

Functionality in Emergency Situations:

Broadband - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(6) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.22(b)(4) as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") meets the requirements to remain functional in emergency situations and has the following capabilities: Wheat State's central office and remote offices are all equipped with batteries and natural gas generators that provide a minimum of 8 hours of uninterrupted power with an almost unlimited back up supply of fuel for generators to recharge batteries in cases of loss of power. In addition, Wheat State has recently upgraded its network and has deployed FTTH technology and has supplied FTTH homes with 8 hours of battery back up at the optical network terminal at the subscriber home.

Wheat State has deployed SONET and Ethernet network technologies in its network. In addition, Wheat State has properly prepared itself for any network outages by having redundant and diverse routing in place to manage any outages and has purchased spare cards for all of its core network equipment for fast replacement should there be a card failure. In instance of fiber cuts, Wheat State has its own fiber technicians and fiber splice equipment in house to assist in an expeditious repair of any fiber cuts. For added security Wheat State has connectivity with the AT&T Wichita tandem and also has connectivity to the Kansas Fiber Network. Both of these options provide Wheat State with diverse options to reroute traffic should an emergency situation arise.

Lastly, Wheat State has developed network preparedness plans in cases of emergency situations. Wheat State has sufficient capacity within its switching network to handle call spikes in emergency situations and its staff has been sufficiently trained of preparedness plans to minimize any and all outages during emergency situations.

(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 411847

| | | |
|-------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
|-------|-----------------|----------------------|

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| <020> Program Year | 2017 |
|--------------------|------|

| | | |
|-------|---|-------------|
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
|-------|---|-------------|

| | | |
|-------|---|--------------------|
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
|-------|---|--------------------|

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |
|-------|---|----------------------|

| | |
|---|----------|
| <701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date | 1/1/2016 |
|---|----------|

<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

<703>

[illegible]

(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 411847
<015> Study Area Name WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020> Program Year 2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Carrie Loos
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 6207823341 ext.109
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> cloos@wheatstate.com

| <711> | <a1> | <a2> | <b1> | <b2> | <c> | <d1> | <d2> | <d3> | <d4> |
|-------|-------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|---|----------------------|--|
| | State | Exchange (ILEC) | Residential Rate | State Regulated Fees | Total Rates and Fees | Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps) | Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps) | Usage Allowance (GB) | Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select) |
| | KS | Cassoday | 19.99 | 0.0 | 19.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 49.99 | 0.0 | 49.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 59.99 | 0.0 | 59.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Cassoday | 69.99 | 0.0 | 69.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 19.99 | 0.0 | 19.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 49.99 | 0.0 | 49.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 59.99 | 0.0 | 59.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Matfield Green | 69.99 | 0.0 | 69.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Olpe | 19.99 | 0.0 | 19.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Olpe | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Olpe | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Olpe | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| | KS | Olpe | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |

(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 411847
<015> Study Area Name WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020> Program Year 2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Carrie Loos
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 6207823341 ext.109
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> cloos@wheatstate.com

| <a1> | <a2> | <b1> | <b2> | <c> | <d1> | <d2> | <d3> | <d4> |
|-------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|---|----------------------|--|
| State | Exchange (ILEC) | Residential Rate | State Regulated Fees | Total Rates and Fees | Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps) | Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps) | Usage Allowance (GB) | Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select) |
| KS | Olpe | 49.99 | 0.0 | 49.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Olpe | 59.99 | 0.0 | 59.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Olpe | 69.99 | 0.0 | 69.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 19.99 | 0.0 | 19.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 49.99 | 0.0 | 49.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 59.99 | 0.0 | 59.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Potwin | 69.99 | 0.0 | 69.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 19.99 | 0.0 | 19.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 39.99 | 0.0 | 39.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 49.99 | 0.0 | 49.99 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 59.99 | 0.0 | 59.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Rock | 69.99 | 0.0 | 69.99 | 25.0 | 5.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Udall | 19.99 | 0.0 | 19.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |
| KS | Udall | 29.99 | 0.0 | 29.99 | 5.0 | 1.0 | 999999.0 | Other, No limit on usage allowance |

(800) Operating Companies
Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

| | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 411847 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | WHEAT STATE TEL, INC |
| <020> | Program Year | 2017 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Carrie Loos |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 6207823341 ext.109 |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | cloos@wheatstate.com |

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| <810> | Reporting Carrier | Wheat State Telephone, Inc. |
| <811> | Holding Company | Golden Wheat, Inc. |
| <812> | Operating Company | Wheat State Telephone, Inc. |

[illegible]

SAC: 411847

State: Kansas

Voice Services Comparability Report

Line: 1010

Voice Services Comparability Report

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 (a) (10) WHEAT STATE TELEPHONE, INC. ("Wheat State") is in compliance with the requirement that voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the national average urban rate for voice service of \$41.07 as specified in Public Notice DA 16-362 issued on April 5, 2016. Wheat State's current total local end-user rate¹ of \$18.56 (which includes a local fee of \$17.00 and KUSF \$1.56) is not above the standard deviation as specified in the USF/ICC Transformation Order.²

¹ Local End User Rate as defined in USF/ICC Transformation Order 26 FCC Rcd at 17751, Para. 238

² USF/ICC Transformation Order, 26 FCC Rcd at 17694, Para. 84 (footnote included) "The standard deviation is a measure of dispersion. The sample standard deviation is the square root of the sample variance. The sample variance is calculated as the sum of the squared deviations of the individual observations in the sample of data from the sample average divided by the total number of observations in the sample minus one. In a normal distribution, about 68 percent of the observations lie within one standard deviation above and below the average and about 95 percent of the observations lie within two standard deviations above and below the average."

SAC: 411847

State: Kansas

Broadband Services Comparability Report

Line: 1030

Broadband Services Comparability Report

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 (a) (1) WHEAT STATE TELEPHONE, INC. ("Wheat State") charges a residential rate of \$39.99 for broadband providing 10 Mbps download, 1 Mbps upload, and an unlimited usage allowance. This rate is lower than \$77.80, which is the 2015 reasonable comparability benchmark for the same offering established by the Wireline Competition Bureau.¹

¹ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Results of 2015 Urban Rate Survey for Fixed Voice and Broadband Services and Posting of Survey Data and Explanatory Notes*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 15-470 (rel. April 16, 2015).

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES

2.1 LOCAL ACCESS

- 2.11 This tariff is subject to and governed by the general rules and regulations, as they now exist or as they may be revised, added to or supplemented by superseding pages or issues.
- 2.12 The schedules of monthly rates for local access service applicable within the various exchange areas for the services offered therein are shown in this tariff. Local access service as offered in this tariff is provided by serving central office line equipment and all outside plant facilities needed to connect the serving central office with the customer premises, up to and including the network interface device (NID). The NID is the demarcation point between Company provided facilities and customer provided facilities.
- 2.13 The monthly local access rates shown in this tariff are payable in advance and entitle the customer to exchange dial telephone service through company-owned facilities.
- 2.14 Rates for Local Access Service, per month.

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------|-----|
| (C) | A. Business | \$20.00 | (1) |
| | B. Residence | \$17.00 | |
| (C) | C. Trunks | \$20.00 | (1) |

When a multi-line business customer uses their own equipment to channelize local service at a DS-1 level, the Federal End User Common Line Charge will apply at a ratio of five (5) per DS-1.

2.15. Kansas Universal Service Fund

Beginning March 1, 1997, the Company will assess a fee for funding of the Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF), including Kansas Lifeline Service Program (KLSP), and the Kansas Telecommunications Access Program (TAP). These funds were enacted by the Kansas Legislature in 1996, and authorized by the Kansas Corporation Commission on December 27, 1996 in Docket No. 190,492-U. The amount of the fee may vary as determined by the fund administrator.

2.16 Lifeline Service Program

- A. The Lifeline service (Lifeline) program, sponsored by the Federal Communications Commission, is a program designed to maintain and preserve universal service by providing a reduction in the price of basic residential local exchange service to qualifying low-income customers.

(T) B. General

- (T) (C) (R) 1. Lifeline is a federally funded reduction of local service charges. Eligible applicants will receive a reduction of \$9.25 on their local telephone bill.
- a. Lifeline customers will also receive additional Lifeline service reductions in intrastate local service of \$7.77.
- b. The maximum Lifeline benefit should not exceed mandatory customer charges attributable to the provision of local service.

(T) C. Program Eligibility Requirements

- (T) 1. Lifeline will be provided for one (1) telephone line per household at the customer's principal place of residence where there is only one active local exchange access line to his/her residential premises or dwelling place.¹ A room or portion of a residence occupied exclusively by an individual not sharing equally as a member of the domestic establishment may be considered a separate dwelling unit (premises). Verification of this requirement will be through self-certification.

- (T) 2. To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, a customer may qualify under either of the following criteria:

- (T) a. The customer must show they are currently a recipient of benefits from one of the following public assistance programs:

- (T) 1. Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- (N) 2. Food Distribution Program
3. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
4. Free School Lunch Program
5. General Assistance
6. Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
7. Medicaid
8. Section 8 Federal Public Housing Program
9. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
10. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
11. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
12. Tribally Administered Free School Lunch Program
13. Tribally Administered Head Start (only those meeting its income qualifying standard)
- (T) 14. Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

¹ A residential premises or dwelling place is that location where a customer resides, even if such residential premises or dwelling place is only a single room. Lifeline will not be provided if the customer has access to other local exchange telephone service within the residential premises or dwelling place, provided/owned by himself/herself or owned/provided by others. If, however, it can be determined by the Company that access to other existing local exchange telephone service owned/provided by others is virtually denied, or is inaccessible to the customer, then Lifeline service will be provided.

6. Lifeline customers will not be denied re-establishment of service on the basis that the customer was previously disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
7. Lifeline will not be furnished on a foreign exchange service arrangement.

F. Credit and Collections

1. If a Lifeline applicant is known to have a poor credit history, a deposit may be required.
2. Once service has been established for a Lifeline customer, they will be subject to bill payment policies contained in this tariff applicable to all customers.

2.17 Local Calling Services

(C) A. MetroOne Optional Local Calling Plan¹

1. Service Description

MetroOne (MO) allows customers to make 1+ customer-dialed station-to-station calls from their exchange to one or more designated exchanges or zones of exchanges, as specified in paragraph 4.b), following, under the rates set forth in paragraph 4.a), following. Calling services contained in this service offering are considered local calls.

2. Regulations

- a. MO is offered to all classes and grades of residence and business customers located in the exchanges specified in this tariff.
- b. This service applies on a per line basis to all exchange access lines that are group billed.
- c. The minimum contract period for this service is 30 days.
- d. Applicable non-recurring charges will apply as set forth herein.
- e. The MO Initial Period Charge described following, applies to each exchange access line on a per line basis in addition to the local exchange service rates as specified elsewhere in this tariff.

(N) ¹ Obsolete. Available only to existing customers at existing locations.

3. Measured Usage Payment Elements and Billing

a. MO consists of three rate elements:

- i. The MO Initial Usage Period which is a specified quantity of hours of 1+ customer-dialed station-to-station calling to the exchange(s) specified in paragraph 4.b), following. Three (3) Initial Usage Period plans are available. The MO Initial Period Charge which is applied on a per line basis each month to each line group-billed allowing the customer to make that quantity of hours of 1+ customer-dialed station-to-station calling defined to be the Initial Usage Period for that MO offering, or fraction thereof.
- ii. The MO Additional Usage Charge which is calculated by applying the MO Additional Usage Charge Rate to each minute of 1+ customer-dialed station-to-station calling in excess of the Initial Usage Period.
- iii. The appropriate non-recurring charge, as contained herein.

b. MO usage is billed in arrears on a bulk basis only.

c. Fractional minutes of calling are rounded to the next whole minute on each message.

d. For each exchange access line group billed, the Initial Usage Period applicable to each line is accumulated for all lines and subtracted from the accumulated usage for all lines. The MO Additional Usage Charge rate applies to this difference, if any.

4. MO Rates and Service Availability

a. Rate and Usage Periods

| | Initial Usage | Initial Period | Add'l Usage | Add'l Period |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| i. Business | \$4.00 | 1 hour | \$0.07 | 1 minute |
| | \$25.00 | 15 hours | \$0.07 | 1 minute |
| ii. Residence | \$3.00 | 1 hour | \$0.06 | 1 minute |
| | \$19.00 | 15 hours | \$0.06 | 1 minute |

(D)

(D)

b. Service Availability

| Calling Exchange | Called Exchange |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Udall | Wichita ¹ |
| Potwin | Wichita ¹ |
| Potwin | El Dorado |
| Olpe | Emporia |
| Rock | Wichita ¹ |

¹ Wichita Metropolitan Exchange including the Central Zone, Andover, Derby, Jackson, Kechi, Parkview-Maize, Valley Center, Augusta, Benton, Colwich-Bentley, Goddard, Mulvane, Rose Hill, Sedgwick, and Whitewater.

(C) I. Discount Bundles

1. Business and Residential

(D)

|

(D)

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(D)

(T) c) EB Elite 300
 Access Line
 Caller ID
 300 Minutes Long Distance *
 5 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(C) d) EB Elite 900
 Access Line
 Caller ID
 (T) 900 Minutes Long Distance *
 5 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(T) e) EB Elite Unlimited¹
 Residence Access Line
 Caller ID
 Unlimited Long Distance *
 5 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(N) f) EB Pro 60
 Access Line
 Caller ID
 60 Minutes Long Distance *
 10 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(D)

(T) a) EB Elite 60
 (T) Access Line
 Caller ID
 (T) 60 Minutes Long Distance *
 (T) 5 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(T) g) EB Pro 100
 Access Line
 Caller ID
 100 Minutes Long Distance *
 10 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(T) b) EB Elite 100
 Access Line
 Caller ID
 100 Minutes Long Distance *
 5 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

(T) h) EB Pro 300
 Access Line
 Caller ID
 300 Minutes Long Distance *
 10 Mbps Internet *
 Voice Mail *

¹ Available only to residential customers.

* Denotes a non-regulated service.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| <p>(M) </p> <p>(M) </p> | <p>(C) i) <u>EB Pro 900</u> Access Line Caller ID (T) 900 Minutes Long Distance * 10 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(T) j) <u>EB Pro Unlimited</u>¹ Residence Access Line Caller ID Unlimited Long Distance * 10 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(N) k) <u>EB Multi-Pro 60</u> Access Line Caller ID 60 Minutes Long Distance * 15 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(T) l) <u>EB Multi-Pro 100</u> Access Line Caller ID 100 Minutes Long Distance * 15 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(T) m) <u>EB Multi-Pro 300</u> Access Line Caller ID 300 Minutes Long Distance * 15 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(C) n) <u>EB Multi-Pro 900</u> Access Line Caller ID (T) 900 Minutes Long Distance * 15 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> | <p>(T) o) <u>EB Multi-Pro Unlimited</u>¹ Residence Access Line Caller ID Unlimited Long Distance * 15 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(N) p) <u>EB Power Pro 60</u> Access Line Caller ID 60 Minutes Long Distance * 25 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(T) q) <u>EB Power Pro 100</u> Access Line Caller ID 100 Minutes Long Distance * 25 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(T) r) <u>EB Power Pro 300</u> Access Line Caller ID 300 Minutes Long Distance * 25 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(C) s) <u>EB Power Pro 900</u> Access Line Caller ID (T) 900 Minutes Long Distance * 25 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> <p>(T) t) <u>EB Power Pro Unlimited</u>¹ Residence Access Line Caller ID Unlimited Long Distance * 25 Mbps Internet * Voice Mail *</p> |
|---------------------------|---|---|

* Denotes a non-regulated service.

¹ Available only to residential customers.

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2. Rates

| | | Monthly Rate | |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | | <u>Business</u> | <u>Residential</u> |
| (D) | | | |
| (T) | (D) | | |
| | (N) | | |
| | a) EB Elite 60 | \$54.89 | \$51.89 |
| | b) EB Elite 100 | \$56.84 (R) | \$53.84 (R) |
| | c) EB Elite 300 | \$64.84 (R) | \$61.84 (R) |
| | (C) d) EB Elite 900 | \$74.84 | \$71.84 |
| | e) EB Elite Unlimited | N/A | \$87.84 (R) |
| | (N) f) EB Pro 60 | \$64.89 | \$61.89 |
| | g) EB Pro 100 | \$66.84 (R) | \$63.84 (R) |
| | h) EB Pro 300 | \$74.84 (R) | \$71.84 (R) |
| | (C) i) EB Pro 900 | \$84.84 | \$81.84 |
| | j) EB Pro Unlimited | N/A | \$97.84 (R) |
| | (N) k) EB Multi-Pro 60 | \$74.89 | \$71.89 |
| | l) EB Multi-Pro 100 | \$76.84 (R) | \$73.84 (R) |
| | m) EB Multi-Pro 300 | \$84.84 (R) | \$81.84 (R) |
| | (C) n) EB Multi-Pro 900 | \$94.84 | \$91.84 |
| | o) EB Multi-Pro Unlimited | N/A | \$107.84 (R) |
| | (N) p) EB Power Pro 60 | \$94.89 | \$91.89 |
| | q) EB Power Pro 100 | \$96.84 (R) | \$93.84 (R) |
| | r) EB Power Pro 300 | \$104.84 (R) | \$101.84 (R) |
| | (C) s) EB Power Pro 900 | \$114.84 | \$111.84 |
| (T) | t) EB Power Pro Unlimited | N/A | \$127.84 (R) |

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SAC: 411847

State: Kansas

Milestone Certification

Line: 3010

Milestone Certification

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a) WHEAT STATE TELEPHONE INC. ("Wheat State") provides this certification that it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to offerings in urban areas as determined in an annual survey as specified in Public Notice DA 16-362, and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. Details for how Wheat State is meeting its obligations for its goals and required obligations are specified within the FCC Form 481 annual filing.

REDACTED

[The Financial Statement of **Wheat State Telephone, Inc.** filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2) is redacted in its entirety as Highly Confidential Information.]